(b) whether Government have made any request to the President in this regard;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government propose to withdraw the Bill in case it is returned by the President for reconsideration of Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) This will be considered at the appropriate time.

Recent Events in USSR

1442. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) when was the information about the coup in USSR against President Mr. Gorbachev received by Government of India; and

(b) whether it is a fact that Indian Embassy at Moscow learnt only from Government of India about the happenings in Russia?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) On the morning of 19th August, 1991.

(b) No, Sir.

Indian response to the over-throw of Soviet President

1443. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's response to the overthrow of Soviet President Mr. Gorbachev was a low key response and not in accordance with the democratic sentiments of our people; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Frequency of certain D.T.C. Routes

1445. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3618 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 26th August, 1987 and state:

(a) what is the presient frequency of DTC route numbers 56, 336, 602, 603, 623, 640, 641, 660 and 062 alongwith their timings;

(b) whether there has been any deterioration in the frequency of the above routes;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken to restore the previous frequency and timings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Details are given in Statement. [*See* Appendix 160, Annexure No. 55]

(b) and (c) The services have deteriorated because of increase in population and decrease in fleet strength of DTC. Moreoever, over-aged fleet of DTC has also increased.

(d) The following steps are being taken to restore the previous frequency and timings:—

(i) Preventive maintenance schedules are being revised;